

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1914

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2016

Resources for Science

Khadse Smt. Raksha Nikhil

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase the level of resources for science to deploy in accordance with country's strategic priorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps taken by the Government to improve science administration, quality of science education and research in India?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Total Plan allocation of Ministry of Science and Technology for the Financial Years 2013-14, 2014-15, and 2015-16 was Rs. 5145.00, Rs.5495.00 and Rs.7200.80 crores respectively. Central Plan outlay of Rs. 8100 cr for the Ministry of Science and Technology for 2016-17 has been proposed which is 12.5% higher than the allocation during previous financial year. This will facilitate Ministry of Science and Technology to implement Science & Technology (S&T) programmes aligned with the country's strategic priorities.

(c) The Government has taken several steps to improve science administration, quality of science education and research in India including creation of new institutions devoted to science education and research such as "Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISER)". Five such Institutes have already been established at Kolkata, Pune, Mohali, Bhopal and Thiruvananthapuram. IISERs aim to integrate under-graduate, post-graduate and research under one umbrella and to interact with National Laboratories and other research institutes to develop a synchronous environment for research that would transcend rigid administrative structure and encourage inter-disciplinary research. Government has decided to establish two new IISERs in the States of Nagaland and Odisha.

Ministry of Science and Technology also supports various fellowships and S&T infrastructure improvement programmes such as Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE); Ramalingaswamy; JC Bose; Ramanujan; Swarnajayanti; National Postdoctoral; Tata Innovation Fellowships; Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure (FIST); Promotion of University Research for Scientific excellence (PURSE); Boost to University Interdisciplinary Life Science Departments for Education and Research (BUILDER); and Star College Programme, etc. to encourage competitive research. Besides this, a large number of extra-mural R&D projects are supported through a competitive research grant to improve quality and quantity of R&D output of scientific institutions.
